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# The Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 30

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 4, 2001

1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Ad Insert

## Local radio station WWTZ added to Alabama Media Honor Roll

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The December meeting of the Elba School Board was highlighted by the presentation to Elba radio station owner Doug Holderfield a certificate of his election to the Alabama Media Honor Roll. The presentation was made by Superintendent Danny Weeks.

In making the presentation, Mr. Weeks said of Holderfield, "He has always been there for us. Never have I called Doug that he didn't offer his help." The superintendent added that Holderfield and his staff are invaluable to the smooth operation of the Elba School System.

Reviewing the monthly financial statement with board members,

Weeks noted that the November Coffee County sales tax check to the school was down by \$4,700 from the previous November. He said he expected the Elba sales tax check to also be down, especially in light of recent problems at Dorsey Trailers.

The board reviewed the recently completed "Access Assessment/Safety/Security Systems Report" of the entire school system. One of the shortfalls found was the lack of efficient heating in the high school auditorium. Weeks told the board that the needed equipment to improve this deficiency is on hand, but would cost \$350 to install. Work was underway to get the installation completed with

in the next few weeks.

Other areas surveyed in this study included (1) Interior Assessment - building components (3) Interior Access - barriers, walls, etc. (4) Exterior Access - barriers, doors, etc. (4) Safety/Security - Bells, fire alarm, smoke detectors, building security, exterior lighting, etc. (5) Heating and Cooling Systems - types, age, life expectancy (6) Electrical System Assessment - Performance Problems. Anticipated upgrades in technology and new equipment; Lighting in classrooms and media rooms, etc.

The board also reviewed copies of the school report card, prepared by the Alabama Department of Education, which was designed to be

sent home with every student.

Weeks was pleased with the grades the Elba schools received in Technical Programs, Safety and Discipline and Graduation Exams. He noted there is room for improvement in ACT test scores and in spending per student. Elba's spending per student received a C+ when measured against other state schools and a D+ when measured against schools nationwide. Elba received an A- in local funds for education with a score of 44.11. The state average is 33.37. Total local, state and federal revenues for the Elba school system during the year reported was \$6,401,114.57.

Weeks noted there were only two weapons related incidents during the past year and they were very minor - pocket knife, etc. There were no guns reported in the Elba school system during the 1999-2000 school year.

The report card shows that the Elba schools spend 72% of the total revenue on instruction, 6% on administration, 8% on housing, 9% on feeding programs, 7% on operations, 1% miscellaneous and none on debt retirement as the system had no outstanding bank loans last year.



Pictured above is Elba City Schools' Superintendent Danny Weeks (left) as he presents Radio Station WWTZ/WELB owner Doug Holderfield with a certificate noting his election to the Alabama Media Honor Roll.

## Goodson to lead Elba Fire Department

by Linda Hodge, Staff Writer

As the Year 2001 gets underway, the Elba Fire Department is making a transition to the new year.

On Dec. 1, 2000, Larry Goodson was elected by the members of the Elba Fire Department to serve as chief of the department for the next two years. After being elected by his colleagues, Goodson was officially approved as fire chief by the Elba City Council during its December meeting. At that point, he filled the position.

"We have a good department here," Goodson said. "I only hope I can build upon that to make the department even better."

Goodson has been involved with the department for 28 years after joining as a volunteer fireman in December of 1972. He has served as assistant chief for the past 15 years, and under his new helm as chief, he will oversee the daily operations of the fire department.

"I don't see any major changes to be made," said Goodson. "Basically, we just want to get more training and advanced schooling for our firemen."

He said it is a goal of the department to have all firemen certified, especially the new firemen.

He also said it is a continued goal to get a better ISO rating for the city.

An ISO rating determines what quality of fire protection an area should have. Better ISO numbers mean better insurance rates.



Elba Fire Chief Larry Goodson

"Our last rating was a 6, but we are working to improve that," Goodson said. "If we achieve our goal, it will be an accomplishment of the whole fire department."

Currently, the Elba Fire Department is made up of 28 volunteer firemen, and Goodson commended each and every one of them for the hard work they do each and every day.

"Our firemen give a lot of their time to the department," he said. "That is the reason we have such a good department."

Goodson also commended former fire chief Lloyd Driggers for

the outstanding job he did as chief of the Elba Fire Department for so many years. He said Driggers' long commitment to the fire department was shown last year when he was selected as Fireman of the Year.

"I also need to thank our city fathers for the great job they have done by ensuring we always have good equipment to do our job," said Goodson.

He said the fire department is able to serve the community as well as it does because of the quality equipment and people on hand.

"This was a good department before I became chief," said Goodson. "I want to keep it that way, and I encourage anyone needing assistance to please give me a call."

## Jeffrey Jurasek promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Army Reserve

A former Elba resident, Jeffrey W. Jurasek, Commander of the Headquarters Company 350th Civil Affairs Command in Pensacola, Florida, has been promoted to the rank of major in the United States Army Reserve.

Commissioned as a second lieutenant in May 1988 through the ROTC program at the University of Alabama, Major Jurasek entered active duty and was stationed with the 5th Forward Support Battalion, in the 5th Infantry Division in Fort Polk, Louisiana. While on active duty he served as a detachment commander during the invasion of Panama during Operation Just Cause, and as platoon leader, fire direction officer, and support operations officer.

In June 1995, Jurasek joined the Headquarters Company 350th Civil Affairs Command, a special operations unit specializing in civil military operations in Central and South America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Korea. He assumed command of the company in January of 2000.

Jurasek has participated in missions in Central America, including peacekeeping operations in Guatemala and humanitarian operations in Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala. He has also served on year in Bosnia-Herzegovina as the assistant intelligence officer with the Organization



Major Jeffrey Jurasek

for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in the Joint Elections Operations Center. Jurasek has served as aide-de-camp, assistant archives and monuments officer and assistant labor relations officer.

Major Jurasek is a 1988 graduate of the University of Alabama with a degree in International Business and Administration. He is currently director of operations for Lee Diving and Salvage Company, Incorporated in Mobile.

Jurasek's mother, June Jurasek, resides in Elba.

## NEWS BRIEF

As of January 7, 2001, postal customers will be paying an extra cent at the post office for stamps on First Class letters. The new stamp will cost 34 cents and will be marked "USA FIRST-CLASS." Later, the phrase FIRST-CLASS will be replaced by the 34-cent amount. New stamps went on sale December 15, 2000. Over two billion one-cent stamps are being made available to patrons allowing them to use up their supplies of older 33-cent stamps.

## Area Happenings

**COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING.** The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, January 8, 2001, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, Ala.

**NEW BROCKTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING.** The New Brockton Town Council will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, January 8, 2001, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chamber located in city hall.

**BAND BOOSTERS' MEETING.** An Elba High School Band Booster meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 8, 2001, for Band Day preparation. This is a very important meeting. All Band Booster parents are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held in the bandroom.

## Dorsey Trailers announces further actions under requirements of Bankruptcy Code

A news release last Friday morning from Dorsey Trailer headquarters in Atlanta read as follows:

As previously announced on December 5, 2000, Dorsey Trailers, Inc. filed a voluntary petition for Relief under the provisions of Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama (Bankruptcy Case No. 00-6792-WRS). Chapter 11 allows the Company to remain in possession of its assets and business while being subject to the supervision and orders of the Bankruptcy Court for certain transactions or actions. Pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code, the Company, as debtors and debtors-in-possession, will continue to manage and operate the assets and business pending the confirmation of a plan of reorganization and subject to the supervision and orders of the Bankruptcy Court.

Since filing for bankruptcy, the Company has entered into successive two-week agreements with Foothill Capital Corporation, the

lender under the Company's existing working capital credit facility for use of cash collateral to fund on-going operations. The current agreement is limited in duration until January 3, 2001. Management of the Company and its representatives

of the cash collateral agreement.

Marilyn R. Marks, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company issued the following statement: "As we begin the process of complying with the requirements of the Bankruptcy Code under Chapter 11, it has become clear to the Company that if there is no approved plan of reorganization in which the Company continues as an ongoing operation thus requiring a sale of the assets of the Company, it is unlikely that the Company will be able to obtain a true market value for the Company's assets due to the severe downturn in the trailer manufacturing industry. Accordingly, the proceeds from a sale of the assets of the Company after payment of secured creditors and administrative claims would not be sufficient to satisfy all of the unsecured creditors of the Company. As such there would be nothing available for the distribution to the Company's stockholders."

"As we begin the process...there is no approved plan of reorganization as the Company continues as an ongoing operation"

Marilyn R. Marks

atives are currently negotiating with Foothill Capital Corporation for an extension of the cash collateral agreement. No assurances can be given that the Company and its representatives will be successful in obtaining approval for the extension.

## Governor promotes school bus safety



boards that will be placed throughout Alabama. The billboards feature the slogan "STOP for School Buses...It's the Law!"

During the school year, nearly 400,000 Alabama school children are transported to and from school by school buses. In the past two years, at least two Alabama students have been killed by motorists who failed to stop for school buses.

Under Alabama law, traffic from all directions is required to stop for a school bus that has stopped on a road or highway to load or unload students. State law further directs motorists not to proceed until a school bus has resumed motion or the lights are no longer flashing.

"This campaign, combined with

our safety efforts including strict law enforcement, bus driver training, and student safety training, should significantly increase awareness of the law." As a result, roads will be safer for Alabama school children," said State Superintendent of Education Dr. Ed. Richardson.

The governor directed that \$51,780 be used to pay for the billboards, which will be concentrated in six areas of the state including Auburn, Birmingham, Huntsville, Mobile, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa. The school bus safety campaign is a joint effort of the Office of the Governor, Alabama Department of Education and the Alabama Department of Transportation.



## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

We survived the annual New Year celebrations . . . and it is good to see that you did also. Hopefully everyone will have a good year in 2000 — some of you deserve better than you received in 2000. It is our prayer that you will end 2001 in better shape and with a more positive outlook than you did the year just passed.

It was good to see Dollar Bee open on the square until midnight on New Year's Eve. They were doing a brisk business right up until midnight, which confirms their decision to be open was a smart idea.

A careful study of economics usually reveals that the best time to buy anything is last year. *Author unknown*

The guy who is accused of killing a bunch of his co-workers at a computer software company just before Christmas saves us by his heinous appearance. But something else surfaced also. E-mail reports hitting our computer in the days following the shooting included copies of e-mail messages he had sent to former navy buddies. Some of these chat-chats were from 1997 and at least one was filled with rather graphic and crude statements! Now the experts warn that anything sent out on the Internet can blow up in a person's face, and this incident makes us wonder how many people save such casual "Hi, how you doing?" type messages. They either don't get as much e-mail as the local newspaper publisher or they have one huge hard drive and fancy archiving system! But then the next question is: "Why save all that stuff?"

The book "This Ain't No Shoe Store" by Enterprise educator Jim Reese is good reading. Two personal friends (speaking separately and on different days) recommended it highly to us. Reese writes about happenings in Reese's Diner, owned and operated in downtown Enterprise by his father Burney Reese from 1947 to 1970. Long time Coffee County residents will surely recognize some of the real life characters. Add that to the way the events are presented and most of us can picture the scene and/or change the names and place and just know we were there when it happened. Getting a copy of the book was in itself an adventure. Don't expect to walk into the bookstore and plunk down cash or plastic and walk out with a copy. We got looks questioning intelligence, sanity or something with that method. Finally a nice lady in the Dove Christian Book Store knew the book, knew Mr. Reese and put us on the right track. After experiencing those earlier looks, it is still gratifying to remember the sparkle in her eyes as she talked about Reese's Diner and about getting a copy of the book for her father (but reliving it herself before passing it on). Anyway, she gave us the phone number for Mr. Reese and let us say he would call and let us know when we could come. We called, were invited to his house, and spent a good 30 or 45 minutes one evening sitting at the dining room table talking and listening. That memorable visit made the book and its stories even more meaningful to us. Plus, we are now the proud owner of a personally autographed copy of "This Ain't No Shoe Store."

Auto liability insurance — those of us who pay every year because we see the positive side of having insurance are not upset to see others who want to drive an automobile being forced to take responsibility for their potential missteps. Regardless of your opinion on this matter, be aware that the Department of Motor Vehicles will be spot-checking thousands of tag-registrations, at random, each year to be sure the automobile is properly insured. If (or when) they find an uninsured vehicle, the law has a number of strong punishments for the registered owner.

## Cellular One employees turn holiday party into holiday gift

The Christian Mission received a \$10,000 check today from Cellular One, a local RCC employee requested.

Applications for heating assistance available through Human Resource Development Corp.

Human Resource Development Corporation will be taking applications for heating assistance through the federal LIHEAP program for Coffee County.

**Coffee County**  
January 22, 2001  
9:00 a.m.  
Enterprise Recreation Center  
East Lee Street  
Enterprise, Alabama  
An applicant must be the head of household or spouse of the head of household. If an applicant is 60

years or older or disabled, he/she can authorize, in writing, an individual to apply for him/her.

The applicant must provide proof of the total household gross income for the month of December 2000; a copy of a recent heating bill; and a social security number of the applicant and all household members.

For more information, contact Human Resource Development Corporation at 347-0881, 897-2667, or 565-3411.

Got Something To Sell??  
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The Elba Clipper

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Coffee County & Surrounding Counties — \$17 per year  
6 Months — \$10, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties — \$19 per year — including tax  
6 months — \$11  
Outside Alabama — \$21 per year — 6 months — \$12

## EDITORIAL

### From The House...

by Congressman Terry Everett

#### REVIEWING CONGRESS IN THE YEAR 2001

The Second Session of the 106th Congress finally concluded in mid December. Despite the rhetoric from the left about gridlock, the year 2000 Republican Congress has been productive for both the nation and the Second Congressional District of Alabama. Here's a look.

For the third year in a row, Congress operated under a balanced federal budget and we passed yet another balanced budget for 2001. We've continued to pay down the national debt. Some \$350 billion has been paid down since 1998, and \$240 billion worth of the debt next year. In 2000, we passed a plan to pay down \$1 billion on the debt over the next 5 years and we'll completely eliminate the public debt within 12 years.

During the last year, Congress has not only maintained this sound approach to government spending, but passed tax cuts for 25 million married couples who suffer from the marriage penalty. 6.679 of which live in Southeast Alabama. Unfortunately, the president vetoed this tax relief. We also repealed the small-business and family farm killing death tax, the president vetoed this tax relief. And we eliminated the Senior Earnings Tax affecting 11,100 Alabama working seniors who lose all or part of their Social Security benefits if their post-retirement incomes exceed \$17,000 a year.

In Southeast Alabama, I supported \$6 million (a \$4.1 million increase) for Montgomery's Dannelly Field airport for terminal and runway improvements. I also voted for \$2 million (a \$1 million increase) for Dothan Regional Air-

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, December 25, 2000, investigated the following incidents: two harassments, one illegal breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, five thefts of property, one criminal mischief, one criminal trespass, one motor vehicle accident, one violation of probation, one DUI (controlled substance), one recovery of a stolen vehicle, and one DUI (alcohol).

The following arrests were made: two for failure to appear, one for criminal trespass one for violation of probation, one for failure to pay, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, and one for illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for driver's license not in possession, five for speeding, one for attempting to elude, one for reckless driving, one for DUI (alcohol and controlled substance), and one for no insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25** — River stage - 3.79 (6:52 a.m.); Fire station - 3.79 (6:52 a.m.); 25

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26** — River stage - 3.67 (6:45 a.m.); Routine activity.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27** — Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Reese Avenue (5:32 a.m.); River stage - 3.54 (6:24 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Clark Avenue (4:07 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28** — Possible fight reported on Addison Street (12:32 a.m.); River stage - 3.69 feet (6:34 a.m.); Disturbance (loud music) reported on Smith Avenue (11:02 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29** — Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 215 (4:06 a.m.); River stage - 3.97 feet (7:18 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Highland Drive (9:20 a.m.).

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30** — Possible burglary reported on Addison Street (12:04 a.m.); River stage - 9.97 feet (6:41 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Farris Avenue (7:58 a.m.); Disturbance reported on Roosevelt Drive (7:47 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence in Beaver Dam Apts. (9:15 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**MONDAY, JANUARY 8** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 14** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**MONDAY, JANUARY 15** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**MONDAY, JANUARY 22** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 23** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28** — Possible burglary reported at Razzo's (2:13 a.m.); River stage - 11.32 feet (6:27 a.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (7:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Buford Street (5:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on U. S. Hwy. 84 E (7:59 p.m.).

In Montgomery, Maxwell-Gunter Air Force base was awarded \$3.7 million for its continued modernization of the base Officer Candidate School. This is an important phase in Maxwell's multi-year program to completely modernize the Air University.

To assist struggling farmers, Congress signed off on \$2 billion nationally in agriculture relief for the disastrous 2000 crop year. Some of this funding will go to drought-stricken Alabama farmers. Congress also approved \$5 million Alabama's emergency having operation.

Congress approved a new defense budget with \$1.4 billion in new contract work to be partially performed by local defense contractors.

The new funding generates new missile assembly work at Lockheed Martin in Pike County, new helicopter composite part production at GKN Westland in Tallapoosa, and the manufacture of F-1608 Navy Sea Hawk helicopters at Sikorsky Support Services in Troy. Sikorsky in Troy will also train Columbian pilots to fly 18 UH-60 helicopters as part of a separate anti-drug package. In Orank, funding was approved to enable US Helicopter to partially refurbish AH-1 Marine helicopters. US Helicopter is also expected to partner in the refurbishment of 42 UH-1 helicopters for the Columbian military.

In 2000, Fort Rucker saw Congress sign off on \$2 million for a Comanche helicopter high-tech training facility to be located at the U.S. Army Aviation Center. Fort Rucker will also acquire 19 new TH-67 training helicopters valued at \$24 million.

With much more to be done, I look forward to the New Year as a new president and a new Congress work together to build on these successes.

**Congressman Terry Everett may be contacted at: 2312 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 Ph: (202) 225-2901**

**ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT**

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of December 25, 2000, through December 31, 2000. They were: D. L. Padgett, Mary Tyson, Jimmy Davis, Carly Crandell, Melissa Martin, Linda Odum, Melinda Jones, Sharon Grant, Hollis Wicker, Austin Magwood, Laura Stokes, Christina Kelley, Gladys Barefoot, Kelley Johnson, Dorothy Johnson, Mary Coleman, Rena Felton, Kathy Turner, Peggy Creech, Jacqueline Bundy, Jimmy Davis, Lena Brundidge, Randy Tyson, John Williams, Leroy Cole, Jessie Stuckhouse, Annabell Wilkes, and Cheryl Beasley.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: John Williams, Peggy Creech, Mary Coleman, Rena Felton, Kathy Turner, Peggy Creech, Kelly Johnson, Joshua Odum, Gladys Barefoot, Melinda Jones, Dorothy Johnson, Rena Felton, and Mary Crandell.

The incident occurred shortly after 7 p.m., while officers were investigating a report of a suspicious vehicle parked at Whitewater Baptist Church. Elba police, upon responding to the call at approximately 5:42 p.m., discovered that the vehicle (a rental van) had been reported stolen in Enterprise. Enterprise authorities were notified and investigators responded to the scene.

While Elba and Enterprise officers were questioning individuals at a residence near the church, a vehicle — late model Chevrolet

on the bridge and Governor Don Siegelman was the bridge replaced," said Baldwin.

Ballard Bridge became the focal point of attention when four individuals were killed in a fiery crash between two trucks that occurred on the bridge in January of 1998. In the same tragic accident, another truck collided with a Chevrolet Blazer seriously injuring another individual. In all, four vehicles, two fertilizer spreader trucks, a building material delivery truck and the Blazer — were involved in the crash on the bridge.

Area residents have been pressing politicians and state agencies relentlessly for the bridge replacement since that tragic accident.

Attention was again drawn to the bridge in late September of 1999 when the car containing five bodies of individuals missing since May of that same year was pulled from the river at that location.

During the meeting, those in attendance were given information as to where the new bridge would be located and the right-of-way that would be required for the construction. They were also told that present plans call for the construction of not one but two bridges.

The new bridge will be 414 feet long (old bridge is 412 feet long) and will be located to the north side of the existing bridge. An additional bridge, called a relief bridge, 495 feet in length, will be constructed in the approach to the new bridge on the west side of the river. This will allow the equalization of water on the downstream side and the upstream side of the roadway in the event of flooding.

Construction costs plus engineering and right-of-way acquisition costs of the two-bridge system is estimated to be in excess of \$5 million.

The DOT is planning to begin the right-of-way acquisition process sometime in January and early February of 2001.

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# SCHOOLS

## Student Spotlight



by Francie English  
Name: Chris Eiland  
Parents: Sharon and Ray Eiland  
Age: 16  
Grade: 11th  
Favorite Color: Red  
Favorite Music: Oldies  
Clubs/Activities: VICA and Sr. Beta  
Interests/Hobbies: Racing  
Personal Quote: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Chris Eiland was chosen to be in this week's Student Spotlight. Chris's favorite class in school is Co-op.  
His overall favorite thing about Elba High School is when he gets to go home.  
After he graduates, he plans on attending UTI College.

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## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Bethany Dye  
Amanda  
Beerenstrauch

## Tiger Tales Editorial Tired of the Time Clock

by Chelsea Cooper

Today was one of those days where I just wanted to go out in the hall, scream as loud as possible, and then return to class. I sat in Algebra II thumbing through my mental calendar of today's events. "Okay Chelsea," I said to myself, "you've got a test this block that you have to do well on because your mom said your grades are suffering due to your extracurricular activities. There's that chemistry test next block... What are those formulas again? Oh yeah! Journalism pages and your article for the newspaper are due tomorrow. Please let Cassy get to the parking lot quickly so you can drop her off and have at least fifteen minutes to do something with your hair before you have to be at work at four." The thing is, this isn't one of the worst days. At the rate my peers are going, we're going to have about five people present for our twenty year class reunion and even they will be talking about their coronary condition. Teenagers' now have so much to do, but usually not because they want to; the reason is because it's expected of them. It doesn't matter if you have the highest GPA possible, you need to be involved in at least three extracurricular activities to even be considered for a scholarship to a prestigious institution. I walk through the halls every day and see kids that don't have enough energy to smile at you, much less play in an hour-long basketball game that night or work a five-hour shift when they get out of school. This simply should not happen. If it is this hard for us to get out of bed now, can you imagine what it will be like in ten years. It is time for us to sit down and breathe before we die ourselves into an early grave. My advice to kids is to work hard, but not too hard, and to sit back and relax sometimes. After all, aren't these "the good ole days?"

## Austin Competes In State Meet

Breann Austin, a second grade student at Elba Elementary, recently competed in the Alabama State Gymnastics Meet.  
Breann is a member of the Gymnastics team from Gym Etc. She is a level four gymnast and has competed in five gymnastics meets this year.  
Breann states that this was her first year to compete and that it was a great experience to help her prepare for next year's competitions. Breann trains two days a week at Gym Etc. and is looking forward to future competitions.  
The Gymnasts placed tenth in the state this year overall.

Congratulations!

## Power Lifting Program Established

by Menda

Members of the Elba High School coaching staff have established a weight lifting program. Led by Coach Mike Waters and Coach Julius Head, the students have been doing a tremendous job. When asked about the new program Coach Waters said, "The pri-



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## EHS Chorus: Making A Joyful Noise

by Leanne Mallory

"Silent Night," "Joy to the World," and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" were just a few of the songs filling Elba High School the week of December 11-15. On Tuesday, Dec. 12, the Elba High School and Elementary School Bands performed their Christmas concert. The 5th grade band began the concert by playing a few selections, such as, "Old MacDonald had a Band" and "Up on the Housetop". Then, the 6th grade band played their portion of the concert, which featured the songs, "Jingle Bell Rock" and "Silver Bells." The Elba High School Concert band was the final band to perform. Their portion of the concert featured, "Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring," "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

Wednesday, Dec. 13, the Elba High School Chorus presented their concert entitled, "A Christmas to Remember." Their program consisted of traditional Christmas songs and praise songs. Samantha Williams, Randy Miller, Danielle



Gideon, LaTasha Crawford, and Jonathan Lockett were a few of the soloist features. Kelvin Burks, a class of 2000 graduate of EHS, returned to sing, "Mary Did You Know?", a song that he used to sing during his time in the chorus. EHS Senior Leanne Mallory sang two

songs. The Chorus ended their program by singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." All in all both concerts were a huge success, and it just goes to show, that the music programs at Elba City Schools will be successful for years to come.

## My New Year's Resolution Is...

by Melissa Mularz

I took a stroll down the halls at EHS to ask a few students and faculty what their New Year's Resolutions are for the year of 2001. A few were a little skeptical to answer, but I finally got an answer out of everyone.  
Lance Cross - 9th - to dunk a basketball.  
Mr. Jacob Davis - I don't ever make one.  
Amanda Mauldin - 7th - to have more fun.  
April Burks - 10th - to be a good girl.  
Mrs. Siler - to enjoy life more to

be a little nicer.  
Jerry Dubose - 12th - to eat a little better and to work out more.  
Timothy Daniels - 8th - to do better in school.  
Mrs. Susan Barnes - to be more organized.  
Kerri Lawford - 11th - to make it to B'ham in basketball.  
Mrs. Mandy Collins - to get up early and to be more punctual.  
Amanda Pope - 7th - to make better grades.  
Cynthia Willis - 12th - to be very "successful".  
Jessica Danford - 9th - to make better grades.

Mandrell Carpenter - 9th - to marry Janet Jackson because she's got the hot for me.  
Anna Harrison - 8th - I don't have one.  
Justin Foushee - 8th - to make better grades next semester.  
Christina Stokes - 12th - to be a better person to others.  
The purpose of New Year's Resolutions is to give people an outlook on the New Year and to make goals, which hopefully will be reached by the year's end. I hope all of you successfully follow through with your New Year's Resolution for the year of 2001.

## EHS Participants In UAB Honor Band

by Bethany Dye

"Practice, practice, practice." "Learn your music." "No pain, no gain." "You've got some work to do." Improvement. Ambitious people are always striving to make themselves better. Recently, some EHS band students had an opportunity to fine-tune their skills and deepen their musical knowledge. On Thursday, Dec. 7, Gunter Akridge, Wesley Kelley, and Bethany Dye—accompanied by Mr. Ellis—made the three-hour drive to Birmingham, Alabama to participate in this year's UAB Honor Band. Students from schools all over the state attended the honor band. Each student invited was chosen on the basis of director recommendation, experience, and accomplishments. Once at UAB, each musician performed a placement tryout by playing a prepared exercise and a sight-reading exercise. The results of the tryouts were announced Thursday night. After all was said and done, Gunter Akridge made 7th chair Gold band,



meeting new people, eating out, shopping at the Galleria, and just getting away for a while. All three of them had a great time and learned a great deal that will surely benefit the band in the long run.

## NEWS FROM ESJC

Tone up with non-impact exercise through Enterprise State Junior College's Leisure Swimming. Participants have the opportunity to maintain fitness through swimming in the College's indoor pool during select times set aside just for them. This spring semester the pool will be available beginning January 11 for approximately 20 hours per week. The fee for individual participants is \$40.00 and \$55.00 for families. There is no registration

Challenge your creativity with Pottery Shoppe! This special interest course at Enterprise State Junior College is designed for adults who have had no experience with clay as well as for those who have worked with clay in the past. Each student will complete at least one piece of slab-built pottery and must purchase clay and tools for \$20.00 at the first session. Dothan pottery master David Plunkett will be teaching this course which will be held on Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. January 22-February 26. The registration deadline is January 16. There is a \$30.00 fee for the course.

Computers for Seniors is a special interest class to be held in the first of three sessions at Enterprise State Junior College this spring semester. This introductory course is designed for people with little or no experience with Spanish. Emphasis will be placed on speaking and listening skills, and students will be able to participate in simple conversation with Spanish speakers here or abroad. There is a \$40.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is January 29. Classes will be held on Mondays, February 5-March 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

China Painting has now been added to Enterprise State Junior College's special interest course offerings. You can learn the step-by-step techniques of painting on fine porcelain from the final application through the final kiln firing. You will learn how to mix and use china paints, how to properly care for and use brushes, and how to create a finished piece of painted porcelain. Supplies may be purchased at the first class meeting for approximately \$50.00; however, you may bring your own supplies if you have them available. There is a \$45.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is January 23. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, January 30-March 20, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Conversational Spanish returns to Enterprise State Junior College's special interest course offerings this spring semester. This introductory course is designed for people with little or no experience with Spanish. Emphasis will be placed on speaking and listening skills, and students will be able to participate in simple conversation with Spanish speakers here or abroad. There is a \$40.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is January 29. Classes will be held on Mondays, February 5-March 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

For more information, call 334-393-ESJC, ext. 234.

Views from...

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie loves to play board games, and was thrilled when Santa left her with several games for Christmas. While she now had the games she wanted, the problem was finding someone to play with. Dad was busy watching bowl games on TV and didn't want to get on the floor to play, while Mom was busy on the computer trying to figure out how Dad crashed the system after only a few days, and big sister was either in her room watching TV or talking on the phone. Some spend the night company helped the problem, while Melanie and her cousin from Enterprise took turns spending the night with each other. I am sure I will try to play the games before long, and even though I won't have to, I will make certain that Melanie is the winner.

## TAKING A FEW FREE SHOTS...

The Elba Tigers closed out the pre-holiday portion of their basketball schedule with a 5-3 record, and will now get ready for the meat of their schedule and match-ups with their area opponents. The Tigers played area foe Pike County on Tuesday night, will host area rival Luverne Friday night, and next week will travel to Calhoun on Friday night to tangle with the area favorite. Pike County is filled with athletes and can beat anyone on any given night, while Luverne has a new coach and a new attitude, and Calhoun is fresh off winning a holiday tournament in Montgomery. If Elba keeps improving and plays like it did in its final two games before the holidays it will be fine, but it will take the Tigers' best efforts every time they hit the court if they hope to continue their winning ways.

The Elba Lady Tigers took the holiday break with an 8-2 record and the championship trophy from the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The Lady Tigers are off to their best start ever, despite starting only one senior, and have to be the surprise team in the area, and as far as I am concerned, have to be considered the favorites to win the area title. Elba will run into Pike County, Luverne and Calhoun over the next week, and although Pike County is down this season, the Lady Bulldogs were big winners a year ago and know how to win. Luverne has a solid team and can surprise anyone on any given night, while Calhoun won the area last season and once again is considered by many to be the favorite. The upcoming stretch will tell us a lot about the Lady Tigers, and I for one believe that we will still be smiling and bragging after the three area match-ups.

Brantley and Zion Chapel took the holidays off, but the Kinston Bulldogs, New Brockton Gamecocks and New Brockton Lady Gamecocks all competed over at the Red Level tournament and all three played three games apiece in the unique event. The Kinston Bulldogs dropped their opener to eventual tournament champion Red Level, but then played well enough to win in a narrow loss to Flomaton and closed out the tournament with a big 16-point win over New Brockton. The Bulldogs start a couple of freshmen and two sophomores, but the young pups are growing teeth quickly, and Kinston may be a team to watch by the time the season reaches the home stretch. The New Brockton Gamecocks dropped three straight decisions to Opp. T.R. Miller and Kinston, but I continued to be impressed with the desire and hustle of the Gamecocks. The Gamecocks were tied with Opp at the half and led T.R. Miller until early in the fourth quarter in games that could have won, while in the loss to Kinston, the Gamecocks never got going and seemed ready for the tournament to end. New Brockton had only one win at the new year's break, but the Gamecocks will play hard and get after their opponents every time they hit the court, and once they find out how to win, the wins will come very often. The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks took it on the chin 99-25 in their opener to 4A power Andalusia, but bounced back to defeat McKenzie and Flomaton to place fifth in the Red Level tourney. The Lady Gamecocks could have easily hung their heads after the opening loss. However, the girls came back in the next round and rallied in the final minute of play to get past McKenzie, and showed they weren't nearly as bad as Andalusia tried to make them look.

The 18th annual Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle Prep Holiday Classic was held over at the Dothan Civic Center with Georgia's Randolph Clay taking home their fifth straight tournament championship. The Red Devils have made a habit of beating up on the Alabama teams in the event, and while this year they did have to fight to get past Malone, Florida and Headland, they did just that and beat up on Pleasant Home by 25 points in the finals. I know that the Dothan tournament is supposed to put the area high school players and teams on the stage at the Civic Center, and that this year the teams will get approximately \$750 for every game they played. However, if the tournament is going to spotlight the teams from the Wiregrass area, why not look in about eight teams and then go out and get some new blood in the tourney every season. Malone, Goshen and Pleasant Home were new faces this year, but the tournament officials should spread the wealth and in years to come bring in teams like Elba, Kinston, Brantley, Charles Henderson, Pike County, Barbour County, just to name a few. I also like the idea of having a team or two from out of state, because it gives the fans someone else to watch that they usually don't see. The tournament has prospered for 18 years without my help, but I think the time has come to overhaul the event to keep it fresh and exciting for the players and fans.

I haven't watched all of any bowl game so far, but I have seen a little of quite a few, and still think there are far too many games involving teams that should be at home instead of playing football. I know the fans from Southern Miss and TCU were excited about playing in a bowl, but Arkansas had no business anywhere, as its 31-14 loss to UNLV proved, and Virginia should have stayed home and given its retiring coach a car instead of letting him go out a loser in a game played in front of a couple of hundred fans over in Hawaii. Other teams that should have been home eating Christmas meals included Arizona State, Cincinnati, Boise State, Texas El Paso, Louisville and Northwestern. Hey, I am a Nebraska fan and did get to see a little of the 66-17 win over Northwestern. I hope the Troy State fans in the area got a chance to see just who it is that is going to do the same thing to the Trojans next season.

In closing...the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will tip-off its 2001 youth basketball season this weekend with a total of 8 games set to be played at the Rec Center gym. The games will involve boys and girls ages 6-12, and you can bet the action will be non-stop, even if it at times may not resemble basketball. In the weeks to come there will be a double-header two nights a week and four games on Saturday morning. However, the season will open with a bang on Saturday, and everyone is encouraged to come out and watch these kids play the game. See 'ya there.

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## County teams have mixed results in holiday tourney

The holiday season was busy for basketball players and fans around the area as a combined total of 40 tournament games were played in Dothan at the 18th annual Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle Prep Classic and in Red Level at the 3rd annual Red Level Christmas Tournament.

The Prep Classic, in Dothan, featured 16 boys teams, and was won for the fifth straight year by Randolph Clay High School, of Calhoun, Georgia. The Red Devils defeated Pleasant Home 59-34 to claim the tournament title, while 1A Pleasant Home claimed second place with wins over Dothan, Rehoboth, and Northview. Northview placed third in the annual event by defeating Headland in the consolation game.

The Christmas Tournament, in Red Level, featured a total of 16

teams, with 8 boys teams and 8 girls teams battling for tournament titles. In the boys division, the Red Level Tigers kept the championship at home by defeating Florida in the finals. The remainder of the tournament field, and their finish, included Opp (3rd), Georgiana (4th), T.R. Miller (5th), Flomaton (6th), Kinston (7th) and New Brockton (8th). The highly-touted Andalusia Lady Bulldogs won the championship in the girls division with an easy win over Red Level, in the finals. The remainder of the tournament field, and their finish, included T.R. Miller (3rd), Pleasant Home (4th), New Brockton (5th), Florida (6th), McKenzie (7th) and Stratham (8th). Every team in the Red Level tournament played a total of three games, which made it possible for the teams to finish with exact finishes in the event.

## Elba youth basketball season tips off Saturday with eight games on tap

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will open its 2001 Youth Basketball League season on Saturday, Jan. 6, with a total of eight (8) games to be played at the Recreation gym, located at 764 North Claxton Avenue.

The games will include games in five divisions, including Boys 8 and Under, Boys 12 and Under, Girls 8 and Under, and Girls 12 and Under.

Following is the schedule for the season opening games, as well as the first week of the season, with all games to be played at the Elba Rec Center gym:

**SATURDAY, JAN. 6**  
9:00 - Miracle vs. Sting  
10:00 - Heat vs. Rockets  
11:00 - Lakers vs. Raptors  
12:00 - Pacers vs. Hawks  
1:15 - Wizards vs. Magic  
2:30 - Mercury vs. Fever  
3:45 - Suns vs. Kings  
5:00 - Mercury vs. Shock

**MONDAY, JAN. 8**  
5:30 - Heat vs. Lakers  
6:30 - Rockets vs. Raptors

## Fast pitch softball clinic to be held in Dothan on Jan. 20-21 at Westgate

The Dothan Department of Leisure Services will sponsor a fast pitch softball clinic on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20-21, at the Westgate Softball Complex. The clinic will be conducted by Bobby Simpson, of Higher Ground; and

will include players of all ages and ability. Helping conduct the clinic will be players and coaches from Columbus State and Valdosta State. Registration will be \$50 in advance and \$60 the day of the clinic. For more information call 793-0191.

## SPOTLIGHT ON.... "HUNTING"



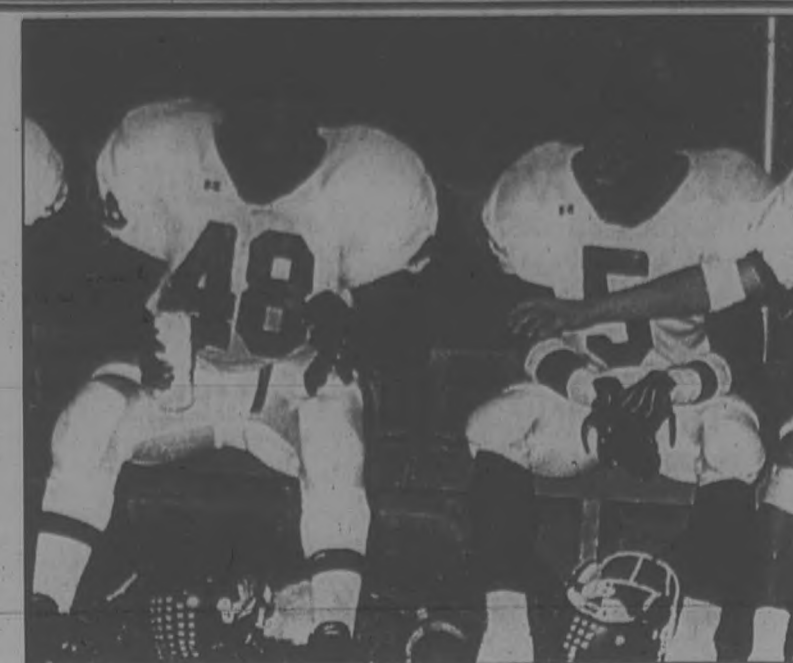
COLT ANDERSON...age 10, son of Ken Anderson, of Elba, killed his first deer while hunting on his GrandDaddy Hudson's farm on November 26, 2000. (Photo submitted)

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# SPORTS



**BRANTLEY BULLDOGS NAMED ALL-STATE...** Greg Daniels, (48) and Darrell Owens (5) were both named last week to *The Birmingham News* and the Alabama Sports Writers Association "All-State" high school football teams in Class 1A. Daniels was a first team selection as a place-kicker, while Owens earned honorable mention at the running back position. Both players were seniors on the 2000 Bulldog team that advanced to the second round in the 1A playoffs.

## Brantley Bulldog standouts named All-State by two state publications

The Alabama Sports Writers Association and *The Birmingham News* both announced their 2000 High School "All-State" Football selections over the holidays, and included among those honored as the state's best were a pair of players from Brantley High School.

Greg Daniels, a 5-11, 245, senior, was named to the Class 1A squad as a place-kicker, while Darrell Owens, a 5-11, 190, senior, received Honorable Mention at the running back position. Daniels was a four-year starter for Coach David Lowery's Bulldogs, and excelled at fullback, tight-end, linebacker, defensive-end

and place-kicker, as he helped Brantley claim a state championship in the state in 1999, and a berth in the quarterfinals in 2000. As a place-kicker, Daniels had the range to become a threat anywhere inside of 50 yards, and gave the Bulldogs an added offensive weapon. Owens led the Bulldogs in rushing and scoring during the 2000 season and was considered one of the top backs in South Alabama, regardless of classification. Owens also served Brantley as the back-up quarterback and on defense was a force at linebacker.

## HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL \* SCHEDULES \*

**Thursday, Jan. 4**  
South Central Athletic Conference Tournament, in Samson (Kinston, Samson, Arton, G.W. Long)  
Dale County at New Brockton (4:30) B, VG, VB

**Friday, Jan. 5**  
Luverne at Elba (4:30) B, VG, VB  
South Central Athletic Association Tournament, in Samson  
Barbour County at New Brockton (4:30) B, VG, VB  
Autaugaville at Brantley (4:30) B, VG, VB  
Dothan at Enterprise (5:00) B, VG, VB

**Saturday, Jan. 6**  
Enterprise at Geneva County (4:30) B, VG, VB

**Monday, Jan. 8**  
Elba at Zion Chapel (5:00) B, VG, VB

**Tuesday, Jan. 9**  
Goshen at Elba (4:30) B, VG, VB  
New Brockton at Kinston (4:30) B, VG, VB  
Brantley at McKenzie (4:30) B, VG, VB  
Enterprise at Opp (4:30) B, VG, VB

## SUPPORT HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL WITH YOUR ATTENDANCE AT A GAME!!

## CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS!!!!

It is that time of year again!!!! Soon all schools in the area will be preparing for cheerleading tryouts. Do not let this sneak up on you! Join us at Kinetic Energy Athletic and Coaching Center for cheerleading tryouts. This class is open to any male or female trying out for cheerleader at the Junior High, Junior Varsity, Varsity or Collegiate Level.

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# Elba brings in New Year on the square



Keith and Teresa Ward of Jack brought several friends from the Brundage area along for the countdown.



Even in the cold weather, there were smiles to be found.



Dale Crowe of Elba was awarded the \$2,000 giveaway.



Beverly Tindell takes charge at the Elba Fire Department earlier in the evening.



A future firefighter for the Elba Fire Department?



This group knew that being with friends and having fun was the purpose of the New Year's celebration.



Elba firemen and their families brought in the New Year together.



The Year 2001 arrives in Elba, and the 21st Century officially begins.



These folks eagerly await the 'countdown' at midnight.

## Harvesting timber could effect tax bill for landowners

by Stan Windham  
County Extension Agent

In Coffee County many landowners are becoming more and more interested in harvesting timber on their land. Some of this is due to increased timber prices. CRP trees that have matured and just a new awareness as to the benefits of managing the timber on their land. Many landowners with small woodland holdings are often unaware of certain provisions in federal tax laws that can effect their tax bill. This is because most small woodland owners make infrequent timber sales and don't keep up with changes in tax laws.

One thing that you can do once you decide to cut timber is to make a visit to your accountant who can help you to determine your possible tax responsibility. For example, if you harvest timber and you receive \$50,000 for it, it can take up to half of it to regenerate the forest, pay various debts, and pay your taxes. You might wonder how the accountant will know about your tax without the timber being sold. Before you cut, have the timber cruised by a professional who can give you a good estimate as to what your timber is worth. You can then take this figure to your accountant who will help you determine possible taxes on this money.

Landowners who are considering future sales of timber should always consult a qualified tax consultant. Landowners should also consult some kind of expert about inheritance taxes and estate planning along with the timber cutting.

This can be important if you feel your heirs will have to pay inheritance tax. To help pay those taxes it may be better if the timber is sold by them rather than by you. Inheritance tax experts can help you determine the best time to sell the timbers as it relates to inheritance taxes and your overall estate planning.

When selling timber, most of the things you must do relating to taxes are easy and are not a problem. It is simply one area that you need to cover before you sell your timber. Let me suggest the following schedule of events that may help you as it relates to taxes and timber.

1. Get a qualified cruise of the timber.
2. Consider how you will market the timber and handle the sale of the timber. You may want to use a forestry consultant or handle all the details yourself, but line this up prior to issuing notice that you are going to sell the timber.
3. Do not send out notices to just a few people. Send notices to a large area of timber buyers. You never know who is going to give you the best price.
4. Contact your tax consultant and talk over the tax situation relating to inheritance, estate planning, and what you will have to pay upon sale of timber.

If you have any further questions considering timber management, please feel free to give us a call at 894-5596 or the Coffee County Forestry Commission at 894-6734.

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## INSIDE

Grace Simmons Celebrates 88th Birthday



## INSIDE

Mills-Stanley Wedding Planned For Feb. 12th



## INSIDE

Jantzen Flowers Kills His First Ever Buck



## INSIDE

Gamecock Has That Determined Look



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# Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 31

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 11, 2001

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Ad Inserts

## Elba City Council takes no action on proposed hunting ban within city limits

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council was confronted by a room full of hunters Monday evening as they convened for their first meeting of the new year. The group was in attendance in response to complaints the council had received last fall about hunters within the city limits endangering the lives of homeowners.

The first to address the council was Matt Brunson, who said that the goal of the hunters is to portray a good image of hunting. "We don't want any child to be afraid to be in their yard," he said. Brunson continued with the fact Elba is in a rural area, historically accustomed to hunting and that his family owns over 500 acres of woodland in the city limits of Elba. He stressed the importance of teaching children the proper rules of hunting and that his young son has killed two deer this year - both within the city limits. Brunson added an opinion that the problems discussed before the city council last fall could probably be handled with the Reckless Endangerment and/or Trespass laws.

Game Warden Cox addressed the issue and noted his department hasn't had a single complaint of hunter problems within the city limits of Elba. He said the Conservation Department didn't want anyone endangered in their yard or house,

but they didn't want hunting stopped. He pointed out that it is good recreation for residents and is good for the tourist trade. The warden noted it is already illegal to discharge firearms within certain distances of occupied dwellings. He added that the council might want to study the idea of forbidding hunting within a limited inner city area.

Rick Nickolson noted that he farms fields within the city limits, and it is hard enough to make a living farming and would be even harder if deer hunting is banned in the area. He explained that dry weather limits available feed for the deer, and could force more of them into his fields, thus destroying crops.

The City Council didn't vote; however, Mayor James Grimes said it seemed to be the consensus of the group to let the game warden and landowners work out any problems which have been reported.

The only other item of unfinished business was a discussion, tabled twice before, to ask for a public vote on changing the selection method for school board members from appointed to elected. When Grimes brought the matter back to the table and asked twice if there was any motion from council members, no council member spoke up and the mayor declared the matter dead.



**FIRE TOTALLY DESTROYED...**the home of Steve and Karen Pettit around noon Monday. Their home is located at 31930 Hwy. 87 in the Jack/Zion Chapel Community. The Elba Police Department received the call at 12:01 and immediately dispatched the Zion Chapel Volunteer Fire Department. Upon their arrival, firemen found the home well involved in fire with the fire breaking through the roof about 15 minutes after arrival, and having to tank water to the scene, kept the fire fighters from getting the fire completely under control. About the time they would contain the blaze, the water would run out and/or the wind would pick up. Mr. Pettit came home and discovered the fire. The Pettits' home and everything in it was a total loss. Anyone wishing to help this family can get direction by calling Scotty Brown, owner of Z.C. Express, at 897-1950 or by calling the First Assembly of God in Elba at 897-6625. The Pettits have three children that attend Zion Chapel. Assisting the Zion Chapel VFD at the scene of the fire were firemen from Five Star VFD and sheriff's deputies.

## New Brockton to honor Martin Luther King

by Marvin McIlwain, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council's monthly meeting Monday evening had a relatively short agenda, but it lasted about an hour partly due to a late start.

One of the first orders of business was the approving of the march on Monday, January 15, in connection with the Martin Luther King Day celebration.

The marchers will assemble at the county bus shop (the old Warren Smith School) on Martin Luther King Drive. They will then proceed to Ainsley turning right on McKinnon Street. The marchers will then turn left on North John Street and continue north to Popular Springs Baptist Church where a formal ceremony will be held.

The march is set to begin at 9:30 a.m., and the day's events are sponsored by the Progressive Circle. Councilman Johnny Herron was asked to coordinate the march with New Brockton Police Chief Jerry Gilbert.

The majority of Monday's meeting centered around the use of emergency lights on personal vehicles.

Chief Gilbert passed out to the council members copies of the section of the Alabama Code that gives the chief of police the authority to authorize the use of emergency lights on a private vehicle.

"I have authorized my police officers, only police officers that had emergency driver's training to use lights to respond to emergencies," said Chief Gilbert. "I have also authorized the firemen who have had emergency driver's training to put lights in their vehicles."

Chief Gilbert said all officers and firemen were told at the time they were given authorization, that if they abused this directive to use the lights, the authorization would be revoked. He told the council that he had had one officer to abuse the directive and his authorization had been revoked.

The chief further stated that all persons granted the authorization had been instructed to observe all laws and regulations under emergency procedures.

When Mayor Charles Cole opened the matter up for discussion several of the council members had comments.

"I personally think we don't need

The council approved a lease agreement with Worth Tent & Supply on the old high school gym. The lease is on a month to month basis at \$300 a month. The tent rental company was moving from the old vocational building due reportedly to a leaking roof in that facility.

Grimes got council approval to spend \$887 to repair a leak in the corner of the old gym, which has been ongoing for some time, with Worth Tent agreeing to pay half that cost. Richardson Roofing will do the work.

Leaking buildings are not strangers to Elba officials. The council also voted to put a metal roof on the Claxton Avenue Recreation Center. City employees will do the work at a considerable savings over contracting it out, with materials costing about \$4,800. Grimes noted the facility has a new floor which will soon be ruined if this facility is not repaired.

The council accepted the high bid of \$7,500 from Hussy House Movers for a FEMA buy-out house at 1002 Elm Avenue. There was no bid received on another buy-out house at 805 Washington Avenue.

The council approved two changes to the employee personnel manual at the request of City Clerk Donnie Morrow. One change concerned the chain of command on filing employee complaints and the other made changes in the city's employment application forms, adding some important data to the application, according to Morrow.

The Caroline Street bridge has been closed for about two months, due to structure problems at the East end of the bridge. The council accepted an engineering recommendation and will spend between \$3,000 and \$5,000 to make repairs. The report said these repairs will hold up to anything but high flood waters rushing down the canal.

Monthly bills totaling \$14,719.96 were approved for payment. Grimes noted that this is the second month in a row that bills have been down extensively. He expressed hope that this trend would continue.

The monthly financial report of the city shows that every department is under budget for the first two months of the year. The mayor praised city employees for the efforts exerted to make this a reality and said he hopes this too continues.

The council appointed Myra Parker to the Housing Abatement

Please See ELBA, Page 3

The meeting agenda for Monday's bi-monthly meeting of the Coffee Commission appeared short with only one item of new business listed; however, the meeting lasted just over an hour.

Most of the meeting time was consumed during the "general business from commissioners" portion of the meeting. There were several motions made that drew several minutes of discussion and amendments offered to original motions.

Commissioner Robert Stephens presented several items to the commission for their approval or disapproval.

He requested the commission pay for the recent installation of a heater, gas, and insulation in the voting house at Damascus. This was approved unanimously.

Stephens asked that Bob DeVaughn with the state forestry department be allowed to order pine seedlings and supervise their planting on county property located across from the county landfill. Also, seedlings are to be planted on all property acquired in the flood mitigation program. This was also approved by the commission.

Commissioner Stephens led a discussion concerning the \$500,000 recently paid to the county by the state for the building occupied by the health department. It was established during the discussion that it has already been approved to invest this money receiving the best possible return, and to use the interest to make payments on the bond issue that financed the construction of facility. The bonds are set for retirement in ten years.

Finally, Stephens proposed that it be established as county policy that community senior citizen centers be responsible for raising the matching funds for grants used in purchasing a bus for the respective centers. A motion to that effect passed in a 4-2-1 vote. Voting for were: Commissioners Stephens, Kayo Lewis, Tom Grimsley, Linda Westbrook against - Commissioners Doug Dalrymple and Jim Thompson. Commissioner Bernest Brooks abstained.

During his time, Commissioner Lewis made a motion to rescind a previous motion made several weeks ago concerning laying off



ICICLES HANGING from the fountain at the courthouse flowing well can be beautiful and have become an all too familiar morning scene in Elba during the past month. The United States has reportedly recorded the coldest November and December on record, and such records have been kept for over 100 years. To see repeats of this scene, it is usually advisable to get up early on that very cold morning - daybreak is advised - and visit the courthouse square before breakfast or much of anything else.

## General business session takes time

by Marvin McIlwain, Editor

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During his time, Commissioner Lewis made a motion to rescind a previous motion made several weeks ago concerning laying off

two maintenance workers, and to allow the maintenance supervisor to place these individuals where they may be needed. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Brooks. This situation was brought about by the sell of the health department building to the state.

In the discussion period of the above motion, an attempt was made to amend Lewis' motion to stipulate that these individuals' employment be considered only for future openings should they occur. This amendment failed in a 3-3-1 vote (Dalrymple, Thompson, and Grimsley voted for; Brooks, Lewis, and Westbrook voted against; and Stephens abstained.) The original motion passed.

A final motion made by Lewis to purchase two new cars for the sheriff's department passed with an amendment offered by Stephens that two cars be purchased each year.

Please See CCC, Page 3

## NOTICE

The City of Elba offices will be closed on Monday, January 15, 2001, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. There will be standby crews for emergencies. To report an emergency with street, water, electrical, or sewer, call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555. The garbage schedule will be unchanged.

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